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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

DAVID A. FERRERA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/865,021

Filed: May 23, 2001

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS OPTICAL

FIBER SHAFT

Examiner: Juliana K. Kang

Group Art Unit: 2874

Client ID/Matter No. MICRU 57642

May 5, 2003

Los Angeles, California 90045

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is in reply to the Office Action dated February 7, 2003, setting a shortened statutory period for a response of three months.

Please enter the following amendments: